

Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY
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All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but must be evidence of good faith.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1906.

Tax Laws.

The present Legislature has been pro-lif in tax laws of one kind and another. Summarized, the new laws—some of which have reached final passage, others of which have been disposed of by the House in which they originated, and all of which are booked for passage—will produce the following results:

Complete elimination of local control over assessment values, and the determination of the local tax rate and the amount to be raised for local uses.

Limitation of the amount to be raised by taxation for the use of municipalities for all ordinary purposes to \$1.25 on each \$100 of assessed value, and of counties, except for State and school tax, to fifty cents on each \$100 of rates.

vesting the Governor with control of the entire system of taxation through his right to name State Board of Assessors, State Board of Equalization, a county board of taxation for every county, and the right to remove for charges made by the county board any local assessor, elective or appointed.

Leaves the State Board of Assessors in absolute control of the assessment of "main stem" and personal property "without a silur," and franchise values of railroad and canal properties and the franchise tax assessment of miscellaneous corporations and all corporations or individuals having a right-of-way in the public streets or highways.

Guarantees a maximum tax rate of \$1.75 on each \$100 of values and an "average rate" that may not reach \$1.50 for the use of the State Board of Assessors in assessing railroad property, by providing that all property other than the latter and such property as is now exempt by law shall be assessed at its true value or one hundred per cent. on the dollar.

Allows to county boards of taxation all the rights to reduce assessments against railroad property, which would have been conferred by the Avis amendment to the Board of Equalization act (since withdrawn), except to reduce the assessments of last year under the Duffield act, all of which were appealed.

Provides another method for the railroads to escape the assessment levied under the Duffield act of last year by admitting the unconstitutionality of that act, in a repealer, which provides for the local tax of second-class railroads at local rates instead of an assessment by the State Board of Assessors at a rate fixed by local assessors.

Confers on county boards of taxation judicial powers, subject to review only by the State Board of Equalization, the decision of which, under the law of 1905, is made "final and conclusive."

Essex Cross Railway.

The Essex Cross Railway Company, which applied for a franchise in this town some time ago and dropped out of sight, came to life again in Elizabeth Monday night, when the City Council of that place granted the Essex Cross Railway Company an amended franchise to enter the city with its road and connect with the Public Service Corporation line. The new road will operate in Morris and Essex counties.

It is some time since the Elizabeth City Council granted a franchise to the Essex company. The reason why the company did not build was that it did not have the money. When this obstacle was removed the Elizabeth alderman insisted on certain changes being made in the route by which the trolley line would enter that city, and this caused another prolonged tiff. The road, when completed, will convey people living in Irvington and other points along the line to the heart of the business section of Elizabeth.

One object of the Essex Cross Railway, and that an important one, was to give street railway connection between this town and East Orange. There is a sentiment in East Orange in favor of the road, and its franchise application is likely to be renewed at any time.

Culture of the Feelings.

EDWARD M. BALLETT, Dean of the School of Pedagogy, New York University, will lecture on "The Culture of the Feelings" in Centra School, Liberty street, Thursday evening, April 19, at 8 o'clock. Dr. Ballell has an international reputation as a philosophical lecturer and author, and is considered one of the foremost thinkers in the college world to-day. The management of the public lecture course is to be congratulated on securing the services of a lecturer of such high calibre.

Musical Instruction.

Miss Grace Willcocks will resume instructions on the piano September 1st. Residence and studio, 87 Orchard street. Arrangements can be made now. Adv.

Thursday Night's Musical.

The musical given in Jarvis Memorial Hall Thursday evening was most enjoyable. Although the stormy evening kept many away, the hall was comfortably filled and the audience certainly lacked nothing in appreciation or enthusiasm. The programme was quite varied, and the vocal selections were all pleasingly rendered, showing good range and skill in interpretation.

Especially pleasing were Miss Pienpoint's rich, sympathetic voice in "Das Vierleben," and Mr. Dufey's rendering of two old favorites; "Evening Star" (Tannhäuser), and "The Two Grenadiers."

Miss Fliske was at her best in "Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt," showing both power and feeling, while Mr. Von Nordeus accomplished the marvelous in "Us bæser," producing absolutely true tones at a breakneck speed.

Mr. Stevens is almost beyond praise. His playing, especially of the wonderful "Moto Perpetuo," of Gottschalk, elicited the same breathless attention that it did two years ago. He executes the most rapid and difficult passages easily and quietly, yet with great power, and apparent enjoyment to himself. The audience, like Oliver Twist, kept asking for more, and Mr. Stevens was most kind in granting encores.

The closing quartette showed the four voices at their best, and was a delightful ending to a most enjoyable programme.

The next musical event of importance will be the rendering of Stainer's "Crucifixion" by a large chorus in Westminster Church on Good Friday evening, April 13.

Restraining Paper Mills.

Testimony was taken before Vice-Chancellor Stevens Wednesday in a suit brought by the Morris Canal and Banking Company and the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company against the Diamonds Mills Paper Company of this town to prevent the pollution of the canal by the discharge of offensive matter into it. It is charged in the bill filed in behalf of the complainants by Collins & Corbin, of Jersey City, that by the discharge of the offensive matter gets up into Third river and renders water from it unfit for use by Thomas Oakes & Company's woolen mills.

The answer filed by Frederick Johnson for the defense sets up that the discharge from the mill does not render the water of the canal unfit for use of other persons in manufacturing operations, and further, that the Oakes woolen mills do not use water from the canal, but from a pond supplied by Third river, and by spring; that the water of the canal is carried across Third river by means of an aqueduct, which is in a state of bad repair by reason of neglect, and that large quantities of water escapes from it into the river, some of which finds its way into the Oakes pond.

The answer also sets up that the chloride of lime which is discharged from the mills into the canal tends to purify it from organic matter.

Employees of the canal company testified to the nature of the discharge from the mills into the canal.

Coblyites to Get Together.

The Republican Committee on Limited Franchises and Equal Taxation, which was organized last summer for the purpose of electing a Senator and Assemblyman in this county pledged to those issues, is still an intact organization. The strength and enthusiasm of the organization will be manifested shortly in a dinner to be given to Senator Cobly and the Assembly delegation.

The affair will probably take place the latter part of this month or early in May. The exact date and place are yet to be decided upon.

At the dinner it is expected that plans will be made by the Republican committee for equal taxation and limited franchises for the next campaign. It is the intention of the committee to keep the organization intact.

No Assembly Districts.

The Assembly distributing bill was defeated in the Assembly on Wednesday by a vote of 26 to 25. That means that members of the Assembly will be chosen this year as heretofore by the popular vote of the county, regardless of districts. Assemblyman Martin of Essex, in speaking of the bill, said that in Essex county the people favored the districting system. He added: "I believe in having the same principle applied to the Senators. I do not believe in the smaller and poorer counties having as much to say as the richer and more populous."

Mr. Martin, as to the Essex county situation, said that while the progressive Republicans of the county favored the district system, yet the presentation of the bill at the present time was a slap in the face of the progressive element.

Patents Issued.

Patents issued to Jerseymen and reported for the Citizen by Drake & Co., Solicitors of Patents, corner Broad and Market streets, Newark, N. J.:

Typewriter, W. Baxter, Jr., Jersey City; card reader, L. H. Broome, Jersey City; plan, W. D. Gallow, Newark; composition for coloring or painting, R. W. Ochs, Newark; talkie, H. J. Hagen, Orange; socket for bottles, H. F. Haydon, East Orange; typewriting machine, E. F. Knuth, Jersey City; bottle washing machine, F. D. Laible, Newark; switching device for electric lamps, J. McCollough, Newark; talking machine, E. A. Pancost, Montclair; lubricating mechanism, G. C. Ratto, Jersey City; forming or moulding device, I. A. Homer, Newark; badin sterilizer, H. W. Shouhard, East Orange; Design—Three-ring, E. H. Bennett, East Orange.

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The Saloon Question.

To the EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN: Sir: A letter appeared in your columns last week on a vital question, a question the solution of which is of tremendous importance, not only to us in Bloomfield, but to our country. The letter was concerning saloons. Many questions were asked in that letter. May I claim the freedom of your columns to answer those questions?

"Why this turnoff over the saloon question?" is asked. "Have the saloon-keepers been dragging people into their places and forcing them to buy?" and so on. Such questions are answered best by quiet observation, and the testimony of the men frequenting the saloons, but from inquiry of their wives, their mothers, their children, their better selves. "Let us alone, what have we to do with thee?" whimpered the evil spirits when Jesus stood before them. "Let us alone, why agitate the master? Men always have drunk, men always will drink," says the modern demon rum.

"Have they, (the saloon-keepers) invoked the law to shut up all other places of business on one day in the week for their own benefit as the churches do?" goes on the questioner. Perhaps a more intimate acquaintance with churches would lead one to the conviction that churches stand for peace, purity, law, justice, the home, and to reveal God so far as frail humanity under the mighty power of the spirit of God can do so. While the saloon—but we all know to what that festering sore on the body national is committed.

The church in invoking the law to close up all other "places of business"—some might object to the comparison of a church to a place of business, but the "King's business requires haste," and it is a place of business where souls are wrested for and convulsed of sin brought. The church in calling upon the law does so to man's best good and in obedience to the supreme law of God.

Again to the statement—"People will drink alcoholic beverages," and "So far as we go back in knowledge of the world's affairs we find liquor-drinking." Yes, we do. We also find accounts of adultery and murder, and how many of these crimes were prompted or executed because people "will drink alcoholic beverages."

The reference to Noah is an unhappy one, for a person familiar with that disgraceful incident in the Patriarch's life might well resolve to abstain after reading the result of his experience. Are the "strongest nations in the world" so because of the quantity of liquor consumed, or in spite of it? Does the drunkenness and squalor and filth and crime of Glasgow, London or New York—conditions largely to be traced to the drink habit—to these add to the strength of a nation?

Jesus Christ at the wedding ceremony in the first century of the Christian era is mentioned. Let the writer of the letter ask himself this. Would Jesus Christ enter a saloon in Bloomfield, stand up against a bar, withdraw from his pocket a portion of his wages and ask for a drink of "whiskey?" Solemnly by the testimony of statistics contrary to a conclusion arrived at from the writer of the letter. Space forbids a full discussion of this, but a few words will suffice. It was said last week, "Beer is moderation, beer is all right." Good whiskey in moderation never kills." The testimony of an investigation extending for sixty years, with 124,673 cases of men, shows that the death rate of moderate drinkers exceeds that of total abstainers as follows:

Excess deaths among moderate drinkers over total abstainers.

20 to 25 11 per cent. 30 to 40 68 per cent. 40 to 50 74 per cent. 50 to 60 42 per cent. 60 to 70 10 per cent.

Does this table show that "beer in moderation is all right?" Good whiskey in moderation never kills."

The testimony of statistics shows that the reverse and "facts are stubborn things." These figures were compiled by an English insurance company covering a period from 1841 to 1901, and are the result of careful and thorough work from the actuary's books.

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In the Male only.

8-9 A. M. 10 Gouverneur St.

1-3 P. M. Newark, N. J.

6-8 P. M. Except Sunday & Wednesday evenings.

our children in a business whose profits accrue from supplying the thirst of men for that which will be their ruin.

Reference was made to the Bible. Did I read aright that liquor-drinking was "commanded," "enjoined," and "defended" in the Bible? It is a pity chapter and verse were not named, for that would have added much to the following passage from the Bible stand as a solemn warning; and let him who reads run from the saloons: Proverbs 20:1, Proverbs 23: 89 to 35, Isaiah 5: 11, Job 1: 5, Luke 21: 34, Romans 13: 13, 1st Corinthians 5: 11, and many others. JAMES P. GARDNER, Glen Ridge, N. J.

Exempt Firemen's Convention.

The State Exempt Firemen's Association will hold its annual convention in Nutley on May 16, and the active and exempt firemen of that town are planning to make the event a notable one in the history of that municipality. It is expected that there will be between 400 and 500 delegates present from all parts of the State. The day will be observed as a holiday in town, and business will generally be suspended. A parade will take place in the afternoon, in which twenty-five or thirty companies will participate. It is expected that this town will be well represented.

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RAILROAD—GREENWOOD

I. Conversed to date.

To New York.

Leave Chestnut Hill—10:30 A. M.